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SENATE BILL NO. 1461

Offered January 29, 2015

A BILL to amend and reenact § 29.1-347 of the Code of Virginia, relating to renewal of waterfowl blind

Patrons—Wagner and McWaters

Unanimous consent to introduce

Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 29.1-347 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows: § 29.1-347. Renewing licenses.

A. The holders of licenses first issued under this article may renew the same privileges each succeeding year by licensing within the time required and placing the license tag on the stake or blind as required by this article. The exclusive privileges prescribed with respect to owners and their lessees and permittees in § 29.1-344 shall be recurrent each year even if the privileges were forfeited to some other person or persons in the preceding year. If any blind is destroyed in any manner beyond the control of the owner, it may be replaced within thirty 30 days without losing the position which that it formerly occupied. Those licensing stationary blinds in the public waters shall remove the blinds when the licenses expire or when they no longer intend to use them, whichever occurs first, except that blinds in Virginia Beach shall not be required to be removed upon initial expiration if the licensee notifies the Department that he intends to renew the license as permitted by subsection B.

B. Until such time as new blinds are permitted to be licensed in Virginia Beach, licenses for blinds in Virginia Beach that have expired during calendar year 2014 and thereafter may be renewed by the last licensee during the licensing period for the year following the expiration of the license. There shall be a late fee of \$75 per license renewed. The Department shall notify the licensee by mail or email at the licensee's last known address of the expiration of the license and the opportunity to renew late, and the licensee may request to keep the blind in public waters until such renewal. If the license is not renewed during the licensing period for the year following the expiration of the license, the license shall

not be renewed thereafter and the blind shall be removed from public waters.